

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed January 8, 2009, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for One Month Extension of Time*, which extends the shortened statutory period for response to May 8, 2009. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant appreciates Primary Examiner Tran's time in conducting a personal interview on April 22, 2009, during which agreement was reached that the claims would be amended to place the application in condition for allowance (details below).

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on March 18, 2004; October 24, 2007; April 22, 2008; and October 24, 2008.

Claims 1-31 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-13 and 23-25 are independent. Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 15-22 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. Accordingly, claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 23-31 are currently elected, of which claims 1, 7, 11 and 23-25 are independent. Paragraph 5 of the Official Action rejects claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 23-31 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent No. 6,774,877 to Nishitoba and U.S. Patent No. 6,359,606 to Yudasaka. Consistent with the agreement reached during the personal interview, independent claims 1, 7, 11 and 23-25 have been amended to clarify that a first transistor and a second transistor share a same semiconductor island. Also, agreement was reached that the rejections of record are withdrawn in view of the above-referenced amendments, that the Examiner would enter the present amendment after final, and that, subject to her further consideration and search, the Examiner would issue a *Notice of Allowance*.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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